

Reply to Office Action dated July 13, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image sensing apparatus having an image sensing unit for sensing the image of a subject via a focusing lens and outputting a video signal representing the image of the subject formed on a photoreceptor surface, a focus control unit for controlling the focusing lens in such a manner that an image within a focusing zone is focused on the photoreceptor surface, and a first display device for displaying an angle-of-view confirmation ~~the image of the subject~~, which is for confirming angle of view, represented by the video signal output from the image sensing unit, said apparatus comprising:

an enlargement unit for applying enlargement processing to the video signal, which has been output from the image sensing unit, in such a manner that an in-focus confirmation image, which corresponds to the focusing zone, in the angle-of-view confirmation image, ~~of the subject for confirming angle of a view~~ is enlarged in comparison with the angle-of-view confirmation image ~~of the subject for confirming the angle of view~~;

a temporary storage device configured to store the angle-of-view confirmation image and the in-focus confirmation image;

a first display controller for exercising control in such a manner that the ~~enlarged in-focus confirmation image~~ from the temporary storage device is

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displayed on the angle-of-view confirmation ~~image for confirming angle of view~~
also from the temporary storage device; and

a second display device for displaying the in-focus confirmation image
~~enlarged by said enlargement unit,~~

~~wherein area of the focusing zone is dynamically selectable anywhere
within the image.~~

2. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first
and second display devices are the same.

3. (CANCELLED)

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein capture of the angle-of-view confirmation ~~image for confirming angle of~~
~~view~~ and capture of the ~~enlarged~~ in-focus confirmation image may be
performed simultaneously in terms of time.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising:

a two-stage-stroke-type shutter-release button;

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a second display controller for displaying the ~~enlarged~~—in-focus confirmation image on said second display device in response to pressing of the shutter-release button through a first stage of its stroke; and

a recording controller for exercising control in response to pressing of the shutter-release button through a second stage of its stroke so as to record the video signal output from the image sensing device on a recording medium.

6. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a first changing unit for changing at least one of position of the focusing zone and enlargement rate of enlargement processing performed by said enlargement unit.

7. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a second changing unit for changing at least one of display position and size of the in-focus confirmation image.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of controlling operation of an image sensing apparatus an image sensing unit for sensing the image of a subject via a focusing lens and outputting a video signal representing the image of the subject formed on a photoreceptor surface, a focus control unit for controlling the focusing lens in such a manner that an image within a focusing

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zone is focused on the photoreceptor surface, and a first display device for displaying ~~the~~ an angle-of-view confirmation image of the subject, which is for confirming angle of view, represented by the video signal output from the image sensing unit, the method comprising the steps of:

~~dynamically selecting an area of the focusing zone anywhere within the image based on a user input;~~

applying enlargement processing to the video signal, which has been output from the image sensing unit, in such a manner that an in-focus confirmation image, which corresponds to the focusing zone, in the angle-of-view confirmation image, ~~of the subject for confirming angle of view is enlarged in comparison with the~~ angle-of-view confirmation ~~image of the subject for confirming angle of view;~~

temporarily storing the angle-of-view confirmation image and the in-focus confirmation image in a temporary storage device; and

displaying the in-focus confirmation image ~~that has been enlarged in such a manner that the enlarged in focus confirmation image is displayed from the temporary storage device~~ on the angle-of-view confirmation image for confirming angle of view also from the temporary storage device.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a size of the focusing zone is dynamically adjustable.

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10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 8, further comprising dynamically adjusting a size of the focusing zone based on ~~the a~~ user input.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image capturing apparatus, comprising:

an image sensing unit for sensing an image of a subject;

a focus zone selecting unit for selecting a focus zone and extracting a focus image, wherein a size of the focus image is smaller than a size of the image of the subject;

an enlarging unit for enlarging the focus image;

a focusing unit for focusing the image of the subject based on the focus zone; ~~and~~

a temporary storage device for storing the image of the subject and the focus image; and

a display unit for displaying the image of the subject retrieved from the temporary storage device and the enlarged focus image also retrieved from the temporary storage device;

~~wherein an area of the focus zone is dynamically selectable anywhere within the image or a size of the focus zone is dynamically adjustable or both.~~

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12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the display unit displays the image of the subject when operating in an angle-of-view confirmation mode.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the display unit displays the enlarged focus image superimposed on the image of the subject when operating in a focus confirmation mode.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image capturing apparatus of claim 13, wherein the sensing of image of the subject by the image sensing unit and the extracting of the focus image by the focus zone selecting unit occurs sequentially.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image capturing apparatus of claim 13, wherein the sensing of image of the subject by the image sensing unit and the extracting of the focus image by the focus zone selecting unit occurs simultaneously.

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16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image capturing apparatus of claim 15, wherein the focus image is a subset of the image of the subject.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image capturing apparatus of claim 13, wherein a location of the focus image within the display unit is dynamically selectable.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the display unit displays the enlarged focus image when operating in a focus confirmation mode.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image capturing apparatus of claim 18, wherein the sensing of image of the subject by the image sensing unit and the extracting of the focus image by the focus zone selecting unit occurs sequentially.

20. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an area of the focusing zone is dynamically selectable anywhere within the image.

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21. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the temporary storage device includes a first image memory and
a second image memory,
wherein both the first and second memories are each capable of storing
the angle-of-view confirmation image, and
wherein both the first and second memories are each capable of storing
the in-focus confirmation image.

22. (NEW) The method according to claim 8, further comprising
dynamically selecting an area of the focusing zone anywhere within the image
based on a user input.

23. (NEW) The method according to claim 8, wherein the temporary
storage device includes a first image memory and a second image memory and
wherein the step of temporarily storing the angle-of-view confirmation image
and the in-focus confirmation image in a temporary storage device comprises
storing the angle-of-view confirmation image into one of the first or the second
memory and storing the in-focus confirmation image into the other of the first
or the second memory.

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24. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus of claim 11, wherein an area of the focusing zone is dynamically selectable anywhere within the image.

25. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus according to claim 11,
wherein the temporary storage device includes a first image memory and
a second image memory,

wherein both the first and second memories are each capable of storing
the angle-of-view confirmation image, and

wherein both the first and second memories are each capable of storing
the in-focus confirmation image.

26. (NEW) An image capturing apparatus, comprising:
an image sensing unit configured to sense an image of a subject;
an image data conversion unit configured to convert the image of the
subject from the image sensing unit to an angle-of-view confirmation image
and configured to convert a focusing zone of the image of the subject from the
image sensing unit to an in-focus confirmation image;

a temporary storage device configured to store the angle-of-view
confirmation image and the in-focus confirmation image from the image data
conversion unit;

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a display unit configured to display one or both of the angle-of-view confirmation image and the in-focus confirmation image retrieved from the temporary storage; and

a controller configured to control the display unit to display the one or both of the angle-of-view confirmation image and the in-focus confirmation image,

wherein a magnification of the in-focus confirmation image is greater than a magnification of the angle-of-view confirmation image.

27. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus of claim 26, wherein an area of the focusing zone is dynamically selectable anywhere within the image of the subject based on a user input.

28. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus of claim 26, wherein the magnification of the in-focus confirmation image is dynamically selectable based on a user input.

29. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus according to claim 26,
wherein the temporary storage device includes a first image memory and a second image memory,

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wherein both the first and second memories are each capable of storing the angle-of-view confirmation image, and

wherein both the first and second memories are each capable of storing the in-focus confirmation image.

30. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the controller is configured to display the in-focus confirmation image on an entirety of the display unit.

31. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the controller is configured to superimpose the in-focus confirmation image over the angle-view-confirmation image on the display unit.

32. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising:

a focusing zone storage device configured to receive the image of the subject from the image sensing unit and configured to store image data of the focusing zone,

wherein the image data conversion unit is configured to convert the image data of the focusing zone from the focusing zone storage device to the in-focus confirmation image.

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33. (NEW) The image capturing apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising:

a focusing zone image data conversion unit configured to convert the image of the subject from the image sensing unit to the in-focus confirmation image; and

a focusing zone storage device configured to store the in-focus confirmation image from the focusing zone image data conversion unit,

wherein the temporary storage device is configured to store the angle-of-view confirmation image from the image data conversion unit and to store the in-focus confirmation image from the focusing zone storage device.